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California Polytechnic State University

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Cal Poly Engineering Professor Wins SAE's Harry L. Horning Memorial Award

Cal Poly Assistant Mechanical Engineering Professor

Brian Higgins was recently honored by the Society of Automotive Engineers for a paper he co-authored describing the mechanism of soot production in diesel engines, which could lead to the design of less polluting engines.

Higgins and Dennis Siebers, a senior member of the technical staff at Sandia National Laboratories, were named as recipients of the prestigious Harry L. Horning Memorial Award, established in 1938 to recognize the author or authors of the best paper relating to the better mutual adaptation of fuels and internal combustion engines presented at an SAE meeting. Their paper was titled "Flame Lift-Off on Direct-Injection Diesel Sprays Under Quiescent Conditions."

The award of a bronze medal and certificate will be presented at the SAE 2002 Fall Fuels and Lubricants Meeting to be held in San Diego in October.

Higgins, a member of Cal Poly's Mechanical Engineering Department since 2001, teaches thermosciences courses. He earned his doctorate at UC Berkeley. He served as a post-doctoral research fellow at Sandia National Laboratories and as a Chateaubriand Fellow for the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique at École Centrale in Paris. At both institutions, his research focused on reducing emissions from combustion devices.

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